

ADVANCED MATERIALS

Supporting Information

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Band Gap Tunability in Zn(Sn,Ge)N₂ Semiconductor Alloys

Prineha Narang^{1,3,†}, Shiyu Chen^{3,5,†}, Naomi C. Coronel^{1†}, Sheraz Gul⁴, Junko Yano^{3,4}, Lin-Wang Wang^{3,5}, Nathan S. Lewis^{2,3} and Harry A. Atwater^{1,3}

X-ray Absorption Fine Structure Spectroscopy Experimental Details

Curve fitting was performed with Artemis and IFEFFIT software using *ab initio*-calculated phases and amplitudes from the program FEFF 8.2. These *ab initio* phases and amplitudes were used in the EXAFS equation:

$$\chi(k) = S_0^2 \sum_j \frac{N_j}{k R_j^2} f_e(\vec{r}, k, R_j) e^{-2\sigma_j^2 k^2} e^{-2R_j/\lambda_j(k)} \sin(2kR_j + \phi_{ij}(k)) \quad (\text{Equation S1})$$

The neighboring atoms to the central atom(s) were divided into *j* shells, with all atoms with the same atomic number and distance from the central atom grouped into a single shell. Within each shell, the coordination number *N_j* denoted the number of neighboring atoms in shell *j* at a distance of *R_j* from the central atom. *f_e(\vec{r}, k, R_j)* is the *ab initio* amplitude function for shell *j*, and the Debye-Waller term $e^{-2\sigma_j^2 k^2}$ accounted for damping due to static and thermal disorder in absorber-backscatterer distances. The mean free path term $e^{-2R_j/\lambda_j(k)}$ reflects losses due to inelastic scattering, where $\lambda_j(k)$ is the electron mean free path. The oscillations in the EXAFS spectrum are reflected in the sinusoidal term, $\sin(2kR_j + \phi_{ij}(k))$ where $\phi_{ij}(k)$ is the *ab initio* phase function for shell *j*. S_0^2 is an amplitude reduction factor due to shake-up/shake-off processes at the central atom(s). The EXAFS equation was used to fit the experimental data using *N*, *R*, and the EXAFS Debye-Waller factor (σ^2) as variable parameters. For conversion of the energy (eV) to wave vector (*k*, Å⁻¹) axis, *E*₀ was defined as 11111.0 eV and the S_0^2 value was fixed at 1.0. All fits were performed in the *R* space.

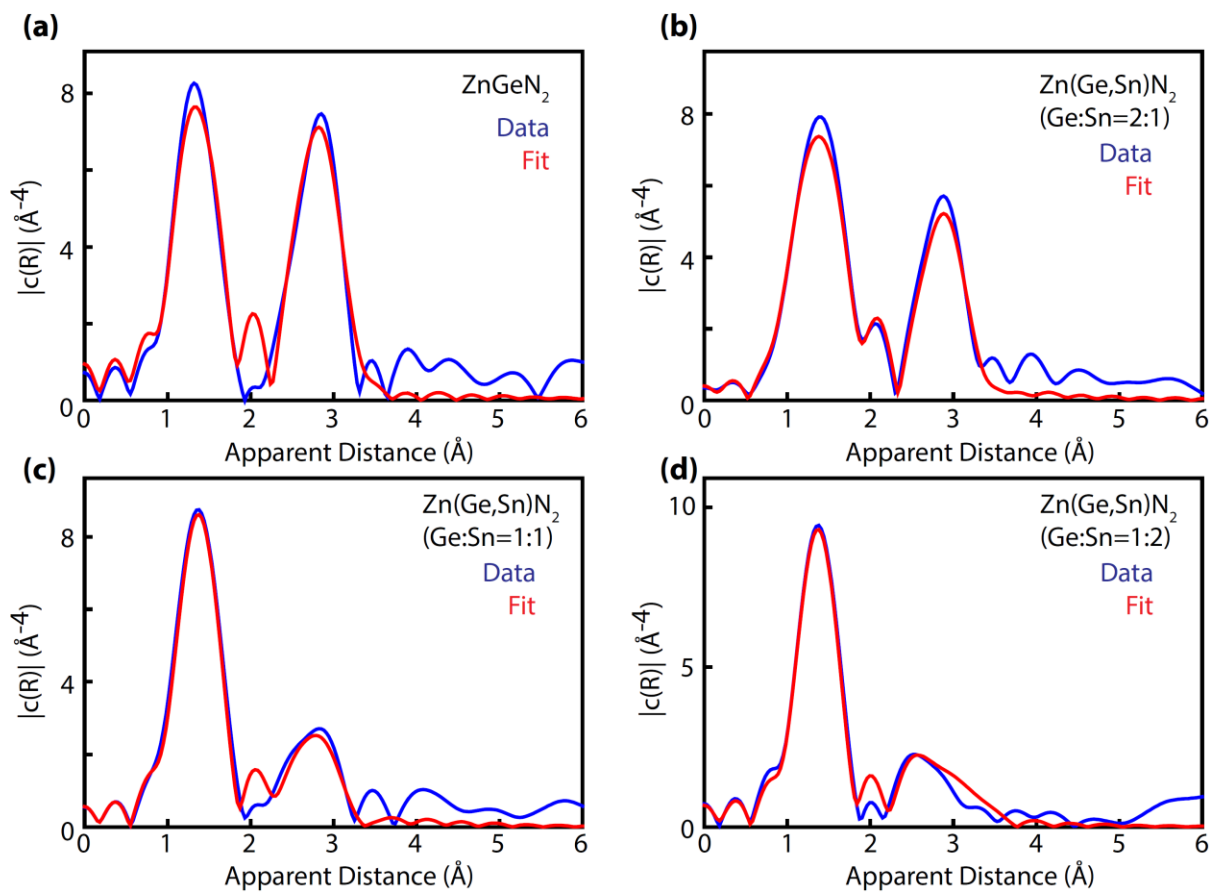


Figure S1: EXAFS curve-fitting results for ZnSn_{1-x}Ge_xN₂ alloys with the fitting parameters summarized in Table S1.

Table S1: Ge K-edge EXAFS curve fitting parameters.

| | Path | R (Å) | | N | σ^2 (Å ²) | R _f (%) |
|---|-------|-------------|-----------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | EXAFS | XRD | | | |
| ZnGeN₂ | Ge-N | 1.86 (0.03) | 1.84 | 4.0 | 0.004 (0.002) | 2.7 |
| | Ge-Zn | 3.23 (0.08) | 3.14 | 8.0 | 0.011 (0.001) | ΔE_0 (eV)=2.3 |
| | Ge-Ge | 3.20 (0.04) | 3.11–3.20 | 4.0 | 0.015 (0.005) | |
| ZnGeSnN₂ (Ge:Sn=2:1) | Ge-N | 1.88 (0.09) | | 4.0 | 0.004 (0.008) | 1.6 |
| | Ge-Zn | 3.26 (0.14) | | 8.0 | 0.012 (0.013) | ΔE_0 =4.3 |
| | Ge-Ge | 3.34 (0.01) | | 3.0 | 0.020 (0.001) | |
| | Ge-Sn | 3.28 (0.60) | | 1.0 | 0.016 (0.020) | |
| ZnGeSnN₂ (Ge:Sn=1:1) | Ge-N | 1.88 (0.08) | | 4.0 | 0.003 (0.007) | 1.7 |
| | Ge-Zn | 3.28 (0.14) | | 8.0 | 0.020 (0.002) | ΔE_0 =4.3 |
| | Ge-Ge | 3.24 (0.10) | | 2.0 | 0.020 (0.001) | |
| | Ge-Sn | 3.29 (0.44) | | 2.0 | 0.020 (0.003) | |
| ZnGeSnN₂ (Ge:Sn=1:2) | Ge-N | 1.87 (0.12) | | 4.0 | 0.002 (0.011) | 1.4 |
| | Ge-Zn | 3.29 (0.01) | | 8.0 | 0.020 (0.012) | ΔE_0 =3.7 |
| | Ge-Ge | 3.23 (0.01) | | 1.7 | 0.020 (0.012) | |
| | Ge-Sn | 3.33 (0.30) | | 2.3 | 0.020 (0.002) | |

N is the number of neighboring atoms, R, the atomic distance, σ^2 , the Debye-Waller factor, and ΔE_0 , the EXAFS threshold energy. Bold letters are the fixed parameters. The number in the parenthesis shows uncertainty in the variables. The goodness of the fit was evaluated by the EXAFS R-factor (R_f, %) that represents the absolute difference (least-square fit) between theory and data.

Special Quasi-random Structures of the $\text{ZnSn}_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x\text{N}_2$ alloys: The structural details of the SQS models used in our calculation are given in Table S2, with the corresponding atomic correlation functions listed in Table S3.

Table S2: Basis vectors (in Angstrom) and atomic coordinates (relative to the basis vectors) of the SQS used in our calculation for the $\text{ZnSn}_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x\text{N}_2$ alloys at concentration $x=0.25, 0.50$. For clarity, only the cation coordinates are shown.

| x=0.50 | | x=0.25 | |
|----------|----------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| a | -6.72 -5.81 5.47 | a | -6.72 -5.81 5.47 |
| b | 6.72 -5.81 5.47 | b | 6.72 -5.81 5.47 |
| c | 0.00 0.00 10.94 | c | 0.00 5.81 5.47 |
| Zn | 0.5000000 0.5000000 0.1875 | Zn | 1.09375000 0.09375000 0.1875000 |
| Zn | 0.1250000 0.3750000 0.1875 | Zn | -0.15625000 0.09375000 0.4375000 |
| Zn | 1.0833335 0.5833335 0.4375 | Zn | 0.88541675 0.38541675 0.6041665 |
| Zn | 0.7083335 0.4583335 0.4375 | Zn | 0.63541675 0.38541675 0.8541665 |
| Zn | 1.0000000 0 0.1875 | Zn | 0.59375000 0.59375000 0.1875000 |
| Zn | 0.6250000 0.8750000 0.1875 | Zn | 0.34375000 0.59375000 0.4375000 |
| Zn | 0.5833335 0.0833335 0.4375 | Zn | 0.38541675 0.88541675 0.6041665 |
| Zn | 0.2083335 0.9583335 0.4375 | Zn | 0.13541675 0.88541675 0.8541665 |
| Zn | 0.5000000 0.5000000 0.6875 | Zn | 0.34375000 0.34375000 0.6875000 |
| Zn | 0.1250000 0.3750000 0.6875 | Zn | 0.09375000 0.34375000 -0.0625000 |
| Zn | 1.0833335 0.5833335 0.9375 | Zn | 1.13541675 0.63541675 1.1041665 |
| Zn | 0.7083335 0.4583335 0.9375 | Zn | -0.11458325 0.63541675 0.3541665 |
| Zn | 1.0000000 0 0.6875 | Zn | 0.84375000 -0.15625000 0.6875000 |
| Zn | 0.6250000 0.8750000 0.6875 | Zn | 0.59375000 0.84375000 -0.0625000 |
| Zn | 0.5833335 0.0833335 0.9375 | Zn | 0.63541675 0.13541675 1.1041665 |
| Zn | 0.2083335 0.9583335 0.9375 | Zn | 0.38541675 1.13541675 0.3541665 |

| | | | |
|----|----------------------------|----|---------------------------------|
| Sn | 0.2500000 0.7500000 0.1875 | Sn | 0.84375000 0.34375000 0.1875000 |
| Sn | 0.3333335 0.3333335 0.4375 | Sn | 0.13541675 0.13541675 0.6041665 |
| Sn | 0.8750000 0.6250000 0.1875 | Sn | 0.59375000 0.34375000 0.4375000 |
| Sn | 0.9583335 0.2083335 0.4375 | Sn | 0.88541675 0.13541675 0.8541665 |
| Sn | 0.3750000 0.1250000 0.1875 | Sn | 0.34375000 0.84375000 0.1875000 |
| Sn | 0.4583335 0.7083335 0.4375 | Sn | 0.63541675 0.63541675 0.6041665 |
| Sn | 0.2500000 0.7500000 0.6875 | Sn | 0.38541675 0.63541675 0.8541665 |
| Sn | 0.3333335 0.3333335 0.9375 | Sn | 0.09375000 0.59375000 0.6875000 |
| Ge | 0.7500000 0.2500000 0.1875 | Sn | 0.38541675 0.38541675 0.1041665 |
| Ge | 0.8333335 0.8333335 0.4375 | Sn | 0.84375000 0.59375000 0.9375000 |
| Ge | 0.8750000 0.6250000 0.6875 | Sn | 0.13541675 0.38541675 0.3541665 |
| Ge | 0.9583335 0.2083335 0.9375 | Sn | 0.59375000 0.09375000 0.6875000 |
| Ge | 0.7500000 0.2500000 0.6875 | Ge | 0.09375000 0.84375000 0.4375000 |
| Ge | 0.8333335 0.8333335 0.9375 | Ge | 0.88541675 0.88541675 0.1041665 |
| Ge | 0.3750000 0.1250000 0.6875 | Ge | 0.34375000 0.09375000 0.9375000 |
| Ge | 0.4583335 0.7083335 0.9375 | Ge | 0.63541675 0.88541675 0.3541665 |

Table S3: Atomic correlation functions for the atomic clusters (k,m) with k vertices and up to the m -th neighbor of the SQS used in our calculation, at the alloy concentration $x=0.25$, 0.5 , and compared with the ideal values of the random alloy.

| (m,k) | (2,1) | (2,2) | (2,3) | (2,4) | (3,2) | (3,3) | (3,4) | (4,3) | (4,4) |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| $x=0.50$ | | | | | | | | | |
| Random | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SQS | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -1.0 |
| $x=0.25$ | | | | | | | | | |
| Random | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | - | 0.125 | 0.125 | 0.0625 | 0.0625 |
| SQS | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | - | 0.000 | 0.250 | 0.0000 | 0.2500 |

Calculated density of states of ZnSnN₂ and ZnGeN₂: The calculated density of states for ZnSnN₂ and ZnGeN₂ is given in Figure S2, with the energy relative to the valence band maximum (VBM) eigen-energy.

Figure S2: Calculated total and partial density of states of (a) ZnSnN₂ and (b) ZnGeN₂. The partial density of states is projected on Zn, Sn, Ge and N s, p, and d orbitals respectively.

